

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 08573 260806Z

10

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 /060 W

----- 035350

R 260735Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7638

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 8573

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: ADVERTISERS CANCEL CONTRACTS WITH OPPOSITION PAPER

1. OPPOSITION (NDP) PARTY SPOKESMAN ISSUED STATEMENT
DECEMBER 26 PROTESTING CANCELLATION BY MANY FIRMS OF ADVERTISING
CONTRACTS WITH TONGA ILBO, INFLUENTIAL NEWSPAPER MOST
CONSISTENTLY CRITICAL OF GOVERNMENT. SPOKESMAN TERMED
CANCELLATIONS INSPIRED BY GOVERNMENT AND AIMED AT PUTTING
FINANCIAL PRESSURES ON TONGA ILBO.

2. TONGA APPEARED DECEMBER 26 WITH MORE THAN HALF OF
USUAL ADVERTISING SPACE TAKEN UP BY ADS FOR TONGA
COMPANY'S OWN PUBLICATIONS AND RADIO STATION, NOTICES
ON HOW TO PLACE ADS WITH PAPER, OBVIOUSLY FILLER-TYPE
ARTICLES, AND LARGE BLANK SPACES.

3. DRP ASSEMBLYMAN ACKNOWLEDGED TO EMBOFF DECEMBER 26
THAT GOVERNMENT WAS IRKED BY CRITICISM OF TONGA
ILBO AND WAS USING CANCELLATION OF ADVERTISING AS
FORM OF RETALIATION. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT ONLY
FIRMS "CONNECTED WITH GOVERNMENT" WERE BEING PREVENTED
FROM PLACING ADS.

4. COMMENT: PRESUMABLY A GOVERNMENT EMBARGO ON MAJOR ADS IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 08573 260806Z

TONGA WOULD HAVE TO CONTINUE FOR SOME TIME BEFORE

HAVING A SERIOUS EFFECT ON THE NEWSPAPER. TONGA'S
CURRENT MAKE-UP, HOWEVER, IS IN ITSELF A FORM OF
PUBLIC PROTEST AGAINST SUCH AN EMBARGO, AND THE
GOVERNMENT MAY FIND IT EMBARRASSING TO CONTINUE, ON
A DAILY BASIS, TRYING TO STRANGLE THE PAPER FINANCIALLY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC'S EYES.
SNEIDER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ADVERTISING, NEWSPAPERS, CONTRACTS, EMBARGOES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SEOUL08573
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740374-0869
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741210/aaaaaiad.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Aug-2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <20 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ADVERTISERS CANCEL CONTRACTS WITH OPPOSITION PAPER
TAGS: PINT, KS, TONGA ILBO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005